

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of increasing healing of a heart wound in a euthyroid adult mammal, comprising the step of administering to a first euthyroid adult mammal having a heart wound an amount of a thyroid hormone-lowering agent effective to decrease a level of a T3 or T4 thyroid hormone relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in a second euthyroid adult mammal to whom the thyroid hormone-lowering agent has not been administered, whereby healing of a heart wound in the first euthyroid adult mammal is increased relative to healing of a heart wound in the second euthyroid adult mammal.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the thyroid hormone-lowering agent is propylthiouracil.

3. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the thyroid hormone-lowering agent is methimazole.

4. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the thyroid hormone-lowering agent is carbamazepine.

5. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the thyroid hormone-lowering agent is radiolabeled iodide.

6-14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second euthyroid adult mammals are C57Bl/6 mice.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second euthyroid adult mammals are humans.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the increased healing in the first euthyroid adult mammal comprises re-epithelialization.

18. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the thyroid hormone lowering agent decreases T3 levels.

19. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the thyroid hormone lowering agent decreases T4 levels.

20. (canceled)

21. (canceled)

22. (canceled)

23. (canceled)

24. (previously added) The method of claim 1 wherein the heart wound is an ischemic infarct.

25. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of detecting increased healing of the heart wound in the first euthyroid adult mammal.

26. (canceled)

27. (newly added) The method of claim 1 wherein the level of the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone is decreased by at least 90% relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in the second euthyroid adult mammal.

28. (newly added) The method of claim 1 wherein the level of the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone is decreased by at least 95% relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in the second euthyroid adult mammal.

29. (newly added) The method of claim 1 wherein the level of the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone is decreased by at least 99% relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in the second euthyroid adult mammal.

30. (newly added) The method of claim 1 wherein the level of the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone is decreased by at least 100% relative to the T3 or T4 thyroid hormone level in the second euthyroid adult mammal.